

**MINUTES OF THE  
SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE**

Monday, February 6, 2017 • 8:00 am • 30 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Senate Chair  
Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair  
Rep. Raymond P. Ward, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Luz Escamilla  
Sen. Daniel Hemmert  
Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa  
Sen. Todd Weiler  
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht  
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck  
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards  
Rep. Sandra Hollins  
Rep. Michael S. Kennedy

Rep. Edward H. Redd  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

**Members Absent:**

President Wayne L. Niederhauser  
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Hector R. Zumaeta Santiago, Staff Economist  
Mr. Russell T. Frandsen, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Clare Tobin Lence, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Paula Morgan, Committee Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [le.utah.gov](http://le.utah.gov).

Chair Ray called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

**1. Public Input on Topics on Today's Agenda**

Robert Breeze, Representative, Save Simpson, explained and shared opposition to the placement and funding for shelters in Salt Lake City.

Scott Chavez, Dentist, Wayne Community Health Center, spoke in support of the Workforce Financial Assistance program.

George Chapman, self, spoke against the homeless site plan in Salt Lake City.

Chris Sveiven, Advocate, Sugarhouse Coalition, spoke in opposition to the homeless shelter in Sugarhouse.

Cordie Weed, self, Utah Council with the Blind, testified in support of Deaf and Blind Services.

Steve Erickson, Consultant, Crossroads Urban Center, spoke in support of the Olene Walker Housing Trust Fund, which supports affordable housing.

James Wood, Researcher, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, University of Utah, spoke in support of affordable housing.

Rep. Ray shared input about difficulty of getting permits for housing in time.

Kim Datwyler, Director, Neighborhood Nonprofit Housing, spoke in support of Rep. Edwards' bill on affordable housing.

Kirt Peterson, Owner, Horizon Property Management, spoke in favor of HB 36 which assists those in need of affordable housing.

Susan Gallacher, self, requested no funding of the homeless shelters on Simpson Avenue.

John Galli, self, Deaf and Blind Services, requested additional services for the deaf and blind and shared a personal experience.

Bill Gibson, self, Deaf and Blind Services, spoke in favor of funding for Support Services Provider for the Deaf and Blind program.

Martin Price, self, Deaf and Blind Services, Director of Community Relations at Sorensen Community Relations, spoke in favor of Sanderson Community Center and shared statistics about it.

Matt Sibul, Government Relations Director, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), spoke in support of Rep. Edwards' bill on affordable housing.

Anthony Rossi, self, spoke against the funding of the Simpson Site for homeless shelters.

Emily Pennock, self, spoke against Simpson Avenue site for the homeless.

Angela Urea, self, spoke on a request supporting independent living.

Pamela Mower, Vice President, Utah Association of Deaf, spoke on behalf of Sanderson Community Center.

## **2. Building Blocks and Requests for Appropriation**

Jon Pierpont, Executive Director, Department of Workforce Services (DWS), explained the Independent Living Center Building Block request.

Andy Curry, Executive Director, Roads to Independence, shared information about the services provided by independent living centers and made a funding request.

Mr. Pierpont and Mr. Curry continued explaining the request for assistive technology funding on the Ongoing State Funds List and Mr. Curry continued the discussion.

Sen. Christensen commented about the equipment being used.

#AS -Homeless to Housing Reform on Building Block Prioritized List - One Time State Funds

Spencer Cox, Lt. Governor, Utah, explained the request for appropriation on the homeless issue and the focus that is being made.

Mr. Pierpont explained the work being done currently and the purpose for their work. He gave the specifics of their request and gave support for the Governor's request as well as the use for the requested funding.

Sen. Shiozawa concurred. He also emphasized the need for more details of the program for constituents.

Rep. Chavez-Houck requested information on intervention services provided by the YWCA family justice center shelter as well as other centers.

Mr. Pierpont responded to questions. Ms. Chavez-Houck commented.

Rep. Edwards introduced Lt. Governor Cox to present the information on #AR of One-Time State Funds sheet. Rep. Edwards then went into detail on HB 36 as well as information on the need for the funding and what the bill addresses. There was continued presentation.

Rep. Albrecht commented on how necessary this is in rural Utah and spoke in support.

Rep. Handy spoke on behalf of #AZ - Urban Redevelopment Tax Credit and explained the request.

Tom Christopoulos, Director, Community and Economic Development, Ogden City, explained the challenge of providing housing in Ogden that is the right kind, the right place and not blighted. He continued with specifics.

Rep. Chavez-Houck spoke about existing inventory and bringing it up to scale and spoke in support.

Sen. Shiozawa asked if there is some flexibility with the request. Rep. Ray gave input on the issue and the difficulty of working with the different cities.

Sen. Escamilla presented an appropriation request for Hospice for the Homeless building.

Kim Correa, Executive Director, The INN Between, Utah's first hospice for the homeless,

presented information on the terminally ill served at The INN Between. Sen. Escamilla continued with presenting.

Rep. Kennedy asked for information on the kinds of diseases that residents of The INN Between suffer from and Ms. Correa and Rep. Kennedy continued discussion about the services rendered.

Sen. Shiozawa commented on the services rendered and spoke in support of funding of The INN Between.

Sen. Buxton spoke on behalf of #AK on the ongoing funding request sheet for the Division of the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Leslie Gertz, Executive Director, Utah Council of the Blind, related the accounts of the importance of increasing funding for services for the blind.

Sen. Millner spoke on the importance of funding SB 100, Early Childhood Services, to fund a study for an inventory of early childhood services and a needs assessment.

Rep. Redd spoke in support of the bill and there was continued conversation.

Rep. Winder made a request for ongoing TANF monies for out of wedlock pregnancy prevention, #AO on the ongoing funding list.

Frank Bedolla, Director, Fathers and Families Coalition of Utah (FFCU), discussed his experience with patrons and the need for funding for #AO on the ongoing funding list.

Brent Salazar-Hall, Attorney, supporting FFCU, continued presenting his support for funding of #AO.

Ray Hansen, Instructor, Horizonte, also spoke in favor of supporting #AO.

Rep. Westwood, presented and explained a request for Utah Intergenerational Poverty Work and Self Sufficiency Earned Income Tax Credit, #AV - Ongoing State Funds sheet.

Matthew Weinstein, Voices for Utah Children, continued sharing information on the request.

Rep. Ray Ward presented a request for Addiction Treatment Using TANF Funds for Eligible Individuals, #AX - Ongoing State Funds sheet.

Adam Cohen, CEO, Odyssey House, presented information about the results of losing funding and asked for support. Shawn McMillen, Executive Director, Step House, offered information and spoke in support of funding for the request.

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Sen. Anderegg asked for a request for the Utah Data Research Center and discussed details of the request, #BR - Ongoing State Funds sheet.

**MOTION:** Sen. Christensen moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

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Sen. Allen Christensen, Chair

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Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair